Parliament as well as chambers of commerce; for example, FICCI—they have all said that we should not allow any foreign airlines into the domestic sector. That representation we have received. I have placed this before the Cabinet.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: The answer is also over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Funds for Tourism Development in Gujarat

*142. SHRI ANANTRAY DEV SHANKAR DAVE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Gujarat has prepared a master plan for the infrastructural development of Kutch district for promotion of tourism in the area; and

(b) if so, funds provided by the Central Government during the years 1995-96, 1996-97 and proposed for 1997-98?

THE MINISTER FOR PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) The Government of Gujarat has prepared a master plan and an Area Development Plan for tourism in the State which has identified Kutch as one of the areas of infrastructural development.

(b) During 1995-96, Rs. 7.98 lakhs was sanctioned to Government of Gujarat. In 1996-97, 8 projects worth Rs. 91.08 lakhs have been identified in consultation with the State Government. Proposals for 1997-98 have not yet been finalised.

Fera violations registered/detected against Private Sector Companies

*143. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of private sector companies against whom cases for FERA violations have been registered/detected since July, 1996 alongwith the amount involved in each case and what is the status of those cases;

(b) whether Government are aware of the strong resentment of the business community about indiscriminate invoking of FERA, most of whose provisions have become outdated; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to amend the FERA and if so, when and the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: (a) The Enforcement Directorate have registered 198 cases against private sector companies since July, 1996. Names of some of the major cases are as under:—

1. M/s. ITC Ltd.
2. M/s. Shaw Wallace & Co.
3. M/s. MVR Group of Companies.
4. M/s. Dipper Investments Ltd.
5. M/s. Kiron Group of Companies.

Enforcement Directorate has undertaken investigations in these cases. Amount involved in each of the case cannot be assessed at this stage.

(b) Action against FERA violators is taken in conformity with the provisions of the statute.

(c) Major changes in Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 (FERA) were carried out vide Foreign Exchange Regulation (Amendment) Act, 1993 (29 of 1993). However, a comprehensive review of FERA is currently being undertaken.

लोधी होटल, दिल्ली का विस्तार एवं उसमें सुधार

*147. श्री सोमपाल: क्या पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या दिल्ली स्थित लोधी होटल का विस्तार एवं सुधार करने की सरकार की कोई योजना है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के कुछ होटलों को निजी क्षेत्र को देने का विचार रखती है; और यदि हां, तो सरकार ने इस संबंध में अब तक क्या

कदम उठाए हैं और इस नीति के अंतर्गत किन-किन होटलों को निजी क्षेत्र को सौंपा जाना है; और

(घ) इस प्रयोजनार्थ सरकार ने क्या प्रक्रिया निर्धारित की है?

संसदीय कार्य एवं पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री श्रीकान्त जैना): (क) और (ख) भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम ने, 207 कमरों वाले वर्तमान 3 सितारा होटल का 310 कमरों वाले 5 सितारा स्तर के होटल में, 98.11 करोड़ रु. की अनुमानित लागत से, व्यापारिक क्षमता का पूरा-पूरा लाभ उठाने, आधुनिक एवं प्रतिस्पर्धा सेवाएं उपलब्ध करवाने तथा वर्तमान लोधी होटल की प्रमुख/सामरिक महत्व की अवस्थिति का पूरा लाभ उठाने की दृष्टि से पुनर्निमाण करने व रूपान्तर करने का प्रस्ताव किया है।

(ग) और (घ) फिलहाल भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम का अपने होटलों में से किसी को भी निजी क्षेत्र को सौंपने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

Investment by Central Government in Bihar

*148. SHRI NAGMANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of annual investment made in Bihar by Central Government and public financial institutions during the last three years for the development of the State;

(b) whether it is a fact that this investment has been declining; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Central Government to increase the investment?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) The Central assistance to the States is given as assistance for the State Plans. The net Central Plan assistance to Bihar and the assistance disbursed by All India Financial Institutions (AIFIs) in Bihar have been increasing, as indicated below:

(i) Net Central Plan Assistance to Bihar

Year	Amount (Rs. crores)
1994-95 (Actuals)	904.15
1995-96 (Pre-actuals)	1031.03
1996-97 (Latest Estimate)	1276.98

(ii) Assistance Disbursed by All India Financial Institutions (AIFIs) in Bihar

Year	Amount (Rs. crores)
1993-94	213.9
1994-95	247.7
1995-96	249.2

Procuring Key flight Heathrow slots for Air India

*149. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether negotiations were held in London in December, 1996 for procuring Key flight Heathrow slots for Air India for the summer of 1997 with British Civil Aviation Authorities;

(b) if so, with what results; and

(c) whether Heathrow slots are pivot for Air India's worldwide flight operations?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No agreement could be reached on this issue during the negotiation.

(c) Slots at Heathrow Airport are vital for Air India's operations to London and North America.

Ten most Dreaded Diseases in the Country

*150. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the ten most dreaded diseases in our country;

(b) the incidence and prevalence of these diseases in the country;

(c) what steps are being taken to prevent these diseases; and